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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE monometallist press has been much exercised by the report that a number of prominent Philadelphia manufacturers had been in conference with the Western Senators, whose votes defeated the revenue bill. The subject of this conference was, of course, the prospect of a protective tariff in the near future, in view of the break-up of Senatorial and Republican unity during the present session, and the prospect of its continuance in the next Congress as well as this. Whatever may become of the House, there is no immediate prospect of the Republicans being able to control the Senate without the votes of what are called "the Silver Senators." Even the most optimistic gold men in the party cannot hope to achieve this for years to come; and in the meantime there is the probability of a division in the party during the coming Presidential campaign, in case the

National Convention should show itself so far complaisant to the gold party as even to evade the bimetallist issue.

These two facts in the situation which confronts us are enough to cause serious disturbance to our manufacturers, who have been holding their heads above water in the hope of the restoration of better times through better tariff and currency laws. They have had ample opportunity to observe the effect of our present monetary policy upon the prices of commodities and the conditions of trade, both domestic and foreign. It was most natural for them to seek to understand exactly the position of the Senators who have taken this stand on behalf of silver; and also to ask in what way they could work to avert the practical shipwreck of the party. The object was not to formulate a method of procedure, or to commit either side to one already formed, but to enable the representatives of our manufacturing industries to appreciate the urgency of the need that steps shall be taken to counteract the machinations of the gold money lending interest in New York and elsewhere in the direction of the policy of the Republican party. With the exception of a few gentlemen who had made up their minds on the other side of the case, those who attended the conference were impressed with the strength and the determination of the party in the Senate which insists that the issues of bimetallism and protection shall not be sundered. They learnt facts on that head which are not in possession of the public or its servants, the newsmongers; and they came back from Washington with a much livelier sense of the dangers which beset the party than seems to be entertained by any of its nominal leaders.

WHILE we have a good deal of sympathy with Secretary Morton in the matter of the distribution of seeds at public expense to our farming population through Congressmen, we think he has made two grave mistakes in dealing with the matter. The first was in discontinuing the distribution on his own authority, after an appropriation had been made for the purpose in a bill signed by the President. In signing that bill Mr. Cleveland had undertaken on behalf of his subordinates that its provisions would be carried out, without any wilful exception, so far as circumstances would permit. The only situation which could have justified a failure was the presence of circumstances which Congress was not aware of, or the occurrence of obstacles it could not have foreseen. As neither of these can be alleged, Mr. Morton's action amounted to an unwarranted criticism of the last Congress in making the appropriation; and this impression was much heightened by the sort of newspaper comment that he allowed his department to be quoted as initiating. The present Congress having renewed the appropriation and made its execution mandatory, Mr. Morton had no proper course open to him but to adopt the old routine of distribution, until he was released from it by Congressional action or his own retirement from office. It certainly is no part of his duty to make himself a critic of what Congress has deliberately ordered, however unwise this may appear to him. Still less does it become him to endeavor to make an action of Congress ridiculous by his manner of complying with its mandate. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture may be a very great man, but he is

not yet a co-ordinate branch of the government; and what one such branch would not endure from another, none of them is required to endure from him. His purchase of the seeds in ready-made packages from the seed-growers of the country has manifestly this purpose, and it is not less offensive because this departure from routine is not great enough to excite a public censure. We should like to see the distribution of seeds strictly confined within the limits at first intended, which was the acquisition of foreign plants and seeds of value through acclimation at Washington before distribution throughout the country. But even that correction of procedure is not of enough importance to be purchased at the cost of public ridicule of the national legislature by a high executive officer.

AFTER a debate which seemed interminable, the Senate has voted to refuse agreement in the conference report on the Cuban belligerency. This will put the question into a shape that will permit of speedier action than if the direct issue of recognition and intervention had continued to occupy the attention of Congress. In truth the strength of the opposition begun by Messrs. Hale and Hoar lay in the fact that the House resolutions, which were accepted by the Senate's committee of conference, combined the threat of intervention with the declaration of belligerent rights. Whatever be the merits of the former proposal, it is not one which any friend of Cuba will care to see confounded with the latter. Our first duty is to place the Cubans under the protection of international law, in so far as our recognition of them can do so. To accompany this with any action looking to intervention is a blunder in method and policy. It is to prejudice our first action as looking to ulterior objects which are not yet within range.

One good result attending the debate has been that it has held the hands of Spain in a certain measure by making it highly inexpedient that the Cubans should be able to point to outrages committed during the discussions in Congress. Just as the students in the Spanish universities have been dispersed to their homes, when it was found impossible to coerce them into good behavior, so orders have been laid upon Gen. Weyler himself to avoid giving American friends of Cuba any hold on which to base their advocacy of intervention. His orders evidently did not require a cessation of active hostilities; rather the contrary. The Yankees were to be shown with what energy and prowess Spain was dealing with those "bandits" whom they talked of recognizing as civilized soldiers. This part of the program, however, does not seem to have been carried out with much success. Even through the dust of misrepresentation, raised by his despatch-writers in Havana, it is discernible that the Spaniards have had several severe setbacks, and that in one of them they suffered heavy losses. The "bandits" fight so much like soldiers that even the Spaniards do not seem to discover much difference when under their fire. The trick of abusing them by such names is not new. It is just the language Napoleon used of the Spanish patriots of 1811; and England stamped the Burmese who resisted the annexation of their country as "dacoits," and hunted them down like wild beasts.

THE Spanish Minister, indeed, assures the Senate's Committee on Foreign Affairs that only a very small minority of the Cubans share in the insurrection; that they hold no town in permanence; and that they disperse at the appearance of Spanish troops. These statements, however, do not tally with the accounts of strangers who have visited the island, and have managed to make their way to the insurgent camp. Nor can they be reconciled with the ugly gaps in the Spanish reports of what is going on in the island, as when Gen. Weyler's announcement of some crushing expedition to bring the insurrection to an end, is followed by dead silence as to its success. Besides this, every statement from the Spanish authorities is discounted heavily by the fact that they

have taken every kind of precaution to keep the outside world from learning anything except what it suits them to have known. Everyone who has been in Havana testifies to the thoroughness of the precautions to control despatches, and to stop every avenue of communication between the cities and the insurgents. As to the occupation of cities, it might be retorted that in a country in which the cities are merely landing places for exports and imports, these are the only part of the island that the Spaniards have been able to hold.

AFTER three days of debate, in which his friends had a full and fair hearing, the House passed the resolutions of censure on Mr. Bayard by a vote of 180 to 71. Six Democrats voted for the censure, and five Republicans against it. As one of the latter was Mr. Willis of Delaware, who was governed by consideration for his State, the Republican dissidents were really but four, Mr. Willis delivering a censure on his own account which was less formal but more severe than the resolutions. The vote can not be said to be on purely party lines, although the sixty-six Democrats set a precedent in opposing the resolutions which they may have reasons to regret. Eleven of them afterward voted for the abstract and general resolution which condemns all such liberty of censure on the part of our foreign representatives, showing that they, like Mr. Willis, were governed by personal regards in not uniting in the censure.

What the effect of the vote will be, depends entirely upon Mr. Cleveland. As it was not a joint resolution, the censure does not go to either President or Senate except for their information, and requires no approval on their part. But the President may regard it as furnishing him with sufficient reason for asking Mr. Bayard to resign. It is believed that he was not a very pleasant associate of the first Cleveland Administration; that he was given the London embassy to get rid of him; and that his public appearances in England at the time of the Venezuelan excitement were not calculated to strengthen the hands of the Administration. If these conjectures be right, then the House has taken a step which will at once free the hands of the President and strengthen the public service.

During the debate, Mr. Turner, of Georgia, defended the charges brought by Mr. Bayard against the protective policy as corrupting the public life of the country, and alleged in support of this that Mr. McKinley's friends are charged by Senator Chandler with soliciting large sums from the manufacturers to secure his nomination and election to the Presidency. The evidence for this is not forthcoming, nor is there half so much probability attaching to it as the reports that large sums have been put up by the money-lenders and importers of New York to secure the control of the nominations of both parties in the interest of gold-monometallism. Is it a fair inference that that party should be proscribed as corrupting our public life? Much might be said in defence of that.

MR. REED has written a letter to a friend in Pittsburgh, declaring that he would not think of seeking support for his candidacy in a State which had a candidate of its own for the Presidency. This reminds us of the retort of the small boy whose sister tried to get him to desist from walking on the sidewalk on the palms of his hands with his feet in the air. "Johnny," she expostulated, "I wouldn't do that if I were you." "No; because you couldn't," was the unbrotherly response. Mr. Reed's boom is not of the stalwart description which invades States pre-empted by "favorite sons." All his clever manipulation of Congress, which he has brought to so fine a point that members of the House step to his desk and ask for leave to offer a motion to adjourn, has gone for nothing. The conservative interests which were to rally around a Speaker who should manage a Republican House as a Democratic President wanted it managed, have not secured him a single vote outside of New England. Nor is the support of New England a very valuable one. Since the era of

reconstruction those States have not affected the result reached by a single national convention of either party. In that of 1884 Massachusetts threw away its chance of defeating Mr. Blaine's nomination by the utter inability of its delegation to read the signs of the times, and their consequent refusal to anticipate 1888 in the nomination of General Harrison.

Up to this writing Mr. Reed has exactly 48 votes to Mr. Morton's 64 and Mr. McKinley's 154, out of 345 delegates. This shows a falling off in the leading candidate who had a clear majority a few days back. And as we foresaw, the opposition to him is concentrating more and more on Mr. Allison as a second choice, not on Mr. Reed or Mr. Morton, and least of all on Mr. Quay, who has not a supporter outside his own State, and cannot secure a united delegation even within it.

Gov. MORTON has signed the Raines Excise bill, and at the same time has felt it necessary to justify this action in a paper which reviews some of the objections to the measure. No one who has watched the course of legislation in dealing with this difficult question will regard the law as constituting a very important advance upon what has been done in other States. Its chief feature is the removal of the granting of licenses from local to State authority; the establishing of local option for towns, not for cities; the fixing of the rate for a license at a higher sum for certain cities than for the State at large; and the distribution of the income from licenses between State and local authorities. It does not contemplate any considerable diminution in the number of such places engaged in the liquor traffic. It enables the applicant for a license to carry his appeal against a refusal to any judge. It provides no important means to enforce the law beyond those found already inadequate. And while the rate for a license is raised, it is not so much as to justify any one in calling this a High License law. It requires no approval of an application by residents of the neighborhood.

Under this bill there need be no diminution at all of the number of licensed saloons, even in New York city, where they amount to one for each one hundred and fifty of the population. There will be no annual and searching review of the conduct of the holders of licenses. There will be no motive for the supervision of such places by their neighbors, or by Law and Order societies. There will be no inducement to keep the law's limits in selling with greater strictness. The only really important feature is the creation of a State Board of Excise, involving a further encroachment on the rights of self-government in the cities of the State. This commands itself to the Republican politicians as they have no reason to expect to retain the control of the cities, while their chances are considerable of holding at least one branch of the Legislature, and thus continuing their friends in office in the Department of Excise. In a word, Mr. Platt and Mr. Morton have thrown away a unique way of dealing with a great social problem for the sake of securing a party advantage.

SOMETHING of a sensation has been caused by the publication of the agreements between Senator Quay and the three foremost Republican leaders in Pittsburg, in which these gentlemen, in consideration of the Legislature abstaining from legislation affecting their private interests, hand over to Mr. Quay and his friends the entire control of the politics, State and national, of that city. We specify this as the consideration, as a close reading of the several documents has disclosed no other to us. The three leaders Messrs. Flinn, Brown and Magee seem to make a total surrender of everything else into the hands of a man whom they know to be morally unfit for any public trust. And it also appears that this is not the first dicker of the kind affecting the politics of Alleghany county. A similar engagement was made in 1890 for four years, and kept to the satisfaction of both parties.

It is for the people of western Pennsylvania to decide how far this bodily transfer of themselves and their political activities accords with their self respect. Philadelphia congratulates her-

self, that although Mr. Flinn was to "call down" Messrs. Martin and Porter and other Philadelphia leaders, if Mr. Quay desired this, it seems the bargain could not be made with them, although Mr. Martin went so far as to agree with Mr. Flinn that "when peace was made, it should be made with both municipalities at the same time."

We have faith that good will come of this exposure of the political slavery to which the ambitions of one unscrupulous man has reduced the political workers of this State. Nothing is more astonishing than the dualism and division between people and politicians in this commonwealth. It exists more or less in all parts of the country, but is worst in Pennsylvania. Again and again have the people of this State repudiated at the polls what the politicians have arranged in private conference and public convention with all the harmony the bosses could desire. It needs but the right appeal in the right way to the sober judgment and honesty of the voters to upset any plan the leaders may make, if it be clearly one involving iniquity. Even the personal excellence of General Beaver for the Governorship did not save him from defeat when his nomination was secured by a bargain and carried out with an indifference to popular wishes, which was trifling in its insulting offensiveness to this last disclosure. The time is approaching when hostility or friendship will be the chief issue in the politics of this State; and when that comes, the politicians will be as astonished as when Mr. Delamater was "turned down" by his own county and defeated by a Democrat.

THE Ohio platform is a straddle as to silver, but outspoken on the tariff question. Mr. Platt and his friends in New York before their State Convention met were planning to score a point against Mr. McKinley by a straddle as to the tariff, and an outspoken declaration against bimetallism. In this, do doubt, they consulted the preference of New York City, which has no sympathy with either side of the Republican policy. They would have secured the support of those importers and bankers, who generally try to come out on the winning side, and who would hurrrah as loudly for Mr. Morton as they did for Mr. Cleveland. But in view of their purpose to press Mr. Morton as a candidate for *national* office, the one-half of their policy was as foolish as the other. West of the Hudson there is no locality in which their anti-silver policy would get a hearing, and west of the Wabash even the shilly-shally declaration of the Ohio platform, which they are trying to antagonize, as too favorable to silver, is regarded as feeble and inconsequent. So they went no farther than to declare that we must wait for bimetallism until other countries agree to let us have it. In the meantime they declare for the gold standard, without a single word in recognition of the harm it is doing to the country and to its producing classes.

As to the tariff, they found that this is not the year for stradlers. The working classes have got so far in their economic education in the hard school of experience, as to know that Free Trade is about the last thing they want, and that high duties are one correlative of high wages. Their proposed platform declared against duties so high as to foster the growth of monopolies. Yet every representative Republican for years past has been denying that the tariff's duties, high or low, foster that growth and pointed to the rapidity with which it has gone forward in America under the present low tariff, and in England under Free Trade. Just as the Ohio Republicans tried to ride two horses by combining some vague statements of bimetallism with the language and charges of its enemies, so the New York politicians tried to mix the language and charges of the Free Trade Philistines with a weak affirmation of Protection. Neither have mastered sufficiently the issues and terms of the controversy they touch, to speak of it with logical propriety and coherence, and "their speech betrayeth them." It was well for them that the Convention's Committee on Platform threw aside their proposed plank. As it is, they have repudiated only one Republican principle.

If the free coinage of silver would not drive our gold out of the country and reduce our currency to a silver basis, but would restore the parity between gold and silver and give us a bimetallic basis for our currency, as bimetallists assert, "how does it happen," asks the *North American*, "that, wherever the experiment has been tried, the result has been precisely the opposite of what our free coinage friends insist must be the case?" Thus we are told that the evidence of experience all goes to show that the free coinage of silver would force us to a silver basis. But the evidence of history shows no such thing. For the statement of the *North American*, on which it bases its interrogatory argument, there is no foundation.

It has not happened, as the *North American* assumes, that wherever the "experiment" of free coinage has been tried, it has resulted in putting the nation trying the "experiment" on the silver basis. From 1803 to 1873, France tried this so-called "experiment" of keeping her mints open to silver without once changing the ratio, and during the whole of this period she maintained the parity of gold and silver at her mints, secured a fixity of exchange the world over between silver-using and gold-using countries, and enjoyed all the advantages of the greater stability of prices that bimetallism confers. In France, free coinage of silver did not result in silver mono-metallism. Nor did free coinage of silver in Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and Greece, also members of the Latin Monetary Union, result in putting those countries on a silver basis.

But the monetary history of the world down to 1873 our gold contemporaries are prone to overlook. Otherwise they would not refer to free coinage of gold and silver at a fixed ratio—the custom of the world down to 1873—as an "experiment." The experiment has been the closing of the mints to silver, and it has proven a miserable, disastrous failure.

But ignoring the monetary history of the past gold-monometallists point to Mexico. Mexico, they tell us, has free coinage of silver and the result has been to put that country on a silver basis. And this they ask us to take as evidence that the opening of our mints to silver would drive out our gold and give us silver monometallism. Because Mexico, a nation comparatively weak commercially, has failed by opening her mints to silver to maintain bimetallism, any attempt on our part to do so must also result in failure! To thus compare the commercial power of Mexico to that of the United States and to declare that the comparatively small demand for silver by Mexico would affect the value of silver to as great a degree as the many fold greater demand for silver consequent on opening our mints to silver is absurd. The internal commerce of the United States equals the internal and foreign commerce of all Europe, outside of the British Isles, combined, and our commercial power being equal to that of all Europe it is in our power to confer as great a demand on silver as all the governments of Europe combined.

Finally we are told silver standard countries are at the bottom of the scale of civilization and gold standard countries at the top and we are told to look at Mexico as evidence of the degrading influence of silver-monometallism. With equal justness we might refer to the retrograding condition and barbarity of the Turks as the result of the gold standard. In 1847 Holland changed from the gold standard to silver and a few years later Germany did the same, but Dutch and German civilization did not retrograde or was the material advancement of those countries checked. To compare the restless energy of the Anglo-Saxon races with the more sluggish southern races is folly. To see the relative effects of the appreciating gold standard and of the more stable silver standard, we must compare the Mexican of to-day, not with the Anglo-Saxon of to-day, but with the Mexican of twenty years ago and the Anglo-Saxon American of to-day with the Anglo-Saxon American of twenty years ago. And when we do so we will find that relatively the Mexican under the silver

standard has made much greater strides of progress than his northern neighbor under the gold standard and that the comparative material development and advancement in silver-using countries has been much more rapid than in gold-using countries.

THE advocates of arbitration continue to press their case on both sides of the Atlantic, with a singular obtuseness as to the unfitness of the present crisis for such an agitation. It is when the American people are most forgetful of what the British imperial policy means, of what utter indifference to any law of justice characterizes her aggressions on weaker countries, and how heartily she is supported in her worst deeds by the diplomats of Europe, that arbitration has the best chance of a hearing among us. Just at present, with Burmah, Swaziland, the Chitralis and Egypt fresh in memory, and the cases of Siam, the Transvaal, Armenia, and Venezuela forced upon our attention, it is not opportune to ask us to become passive accomplices in the atrocities of her policy by promising that under no circumstances and for no provocation shall she be made to feel the weight of our hand. It is the less so because of the hearty support which her aggressions on Venezuela and Spain's attitude in the Cuban matter have received from the diplomats and rulers of Europe. It shows the animus which pervades the class to which we must look for arbitrators.

The London *Times* of March 3d, substantially admits this general hostility of the continent, but explains it on the ground that when the neighbor's house is on fire, each man begins to think of his own. As we have had no disagreement with any European power but England and Spain, and in neither case have pursued a course which threatened recourse to arms, the explanation is rather inadequate. The cause lies deeper, in the general belief that the time is close at hand when the centre of gravity in all great affairs will be shifted to our side of the ocean. From the time of the defeat of Xerxes at Salamis, with the exception of the brief period when Islam was at its height of power and aggression, Europe has led the civilized world. For the first time in a millennium her hegemony is disputed; and it is natural that a common and unpleasant sense of this should pervade her ruling classes. This certainly unfits them to sit in judgment on our arbitration on questions pending between us and any European power. The four defeats of justice we have sustained at the hands of such boards are warnings to us to have no more to do with them.

THE death of Thomas Hughes will be felt on both sides of the Atlantic as a personal loss by thousands of the middle age. His two admirable books for the young are no longer read by the young to anything like the extent that they once were. They belong to an age which has passed away,—the age of Albert the Good and its cheerful optimism—and not to this end of the century. Some, indeed, of the extravagances of that time explain the reaction toward pessimism in ours. But they were far more wholesome and helpful than the stuff which is served up to young readers now, even though their outlook upon life was limited and unsatisfactory. So the generation which was reading "Tom Brown at Rugby" before the war, may congratulate itself on having taken a better start than its successor.

On Americans Judge Hughes had a stronger claim than any of his books could give him. He was a staunch and true friend of our country at a time and in a place when its need of friends was sore. No man worked harder to keep England right, in spite of Tories out of office and Whigs in it, or incurred more opprobrium from the Classes for taking this course. It grieved him that America did not, and could not regard this service as atoning for the general hostility of English society to the cause of the Union; and he expostulated with us on this head during his two visits to America. Unfortunately for his plea, America could not shut her

eyes to facts, which lay only the blacker on the record beside the lustre of the friendship of the few.

Judge Hughes, experienced a severe loss of fortune in his late years, which led some of his family to look to America as their home, and to seek in Texas and Tennessee a recovery of their competence. In the great division which rent the Liberal party he withheld Mr. Gladstone, and again remonstrated with us for our sympathy with Home Rule as a movement, in his judgment, parallel to secession in its ultimate effects on the nation concerned. Had he looked a little closer into our own government he would have found that each of our States possesses a larger measure of autonomy than Mr. Gladstone ever proposed to bestow upon Ireland.

THE Egyptian expedition upon the Soudan becomes more and more of a puzzle as to its real motive. The first pretense of pure benevolence toward Italy is now abandoned even by the English papers. It seems, however, as if Lord Salisbury were trying the proverbial experiment of killing two birds with one stone. His party resented very bitterly the abandonment of the Soudan to the Dervishes after the ineffectual attempt to relieve Khartoum and save Gordon. He seems to have planned a resumption of the forward policy on the Nile, and thought this a good opportunity to attempt it. By putting on the appearance of "creating a division in favor of the Italians," he could both secure favor of this step at home, and use it to conciliate Germany as Italy's ally. So he goes forward to execute what he long ago declared to be his ideal of English policy, which is to make every disturbance of the world's peace an occasion of extending the boundaries of the British Empire. That policy, however, is not so easily followed in these days, as in 1815 and the years which followed it. And in this instance "Fuzzy-Wuzzy" is in the way.

SHORT-SIGHTED PROTECTIONISTS.

THE gold organs of the Republican party and some manufacturers are prone to speak of higher tariff duties as if the only thing needed to bring better times and continued prosperity is the exclusion from our market of goods of foreign manufacture, protection against foreign competition and the preservation of our home market to our own manufacturers. But protection against foreign competition will not, of itself, bring renewed and continued prosperity to our manufacturers. Our manufacturers suffer from foreign competition—competition that is being stimulated with European as well as Asiatic countries by the divergence in the value of gold and silver—but they suffer even more from a narrowed home market. If the home market was sufficient to readily absorb the products of our mills and factories running to their full capacity, then the preservation of our home market would bring prosperity to our manufacturers. But so long as our agricultural classes are impoverished, so long as they can spare but little for manufactured goods, the market for manufactures will be restricted and our manufacturers cannot prosper.

Moreover, it is the ruinous competition with the producers of silver-using countries for European markets that is impoverishing our agricultural classes. This competition has been built up by the divergence in the value of gold and silver, and to meet it, our agricultural classes have been obliged to cut prices in half. Just as silver has fallen, as measured by gold, our farming classes have been obliged to cut prices, under pain of losing the European markets, for the ounce of silver has not lost any of its value to their silver-using competitors, who have, during the past twenty years, ever been willing to take the same ounce of silver for approximately the same quantity of wheat or cotton, asking no more silver year after year, though silver has gradually depreciated since 1873, as measured by gold, until to-day it is worth but little more than half as much in gold as it was in 1873.

Thus, as silver has fallen, prices of agricultural products

have fallen; our agricultural classes have become more and more impoverished and their labor less and less remunerative; for, with the fall in prices, there has been no corresponding reduction in the labor-cost of production. The same amount of labor suffices to produce very little, if any, more wheat, or corn, or cotton, to-day than twenty years ago. Consequently, as prices have fallen, our farmers have had less and less to spend for manufactured goods, and the market for such goods has been correspondingly restricted.

Our farmers have been benefited in the past by the protective tariff in that it has fostered the building up of local centers of industry, brought farmer and manufacturer closer together, enlarged the home market (always the best market) for agricultural products, and freed the farmer from dependence for manufactured goods on foreign manufacturers. The further any producer is from the market for his products, the more completely is he at the mercy of the trading classes, and the smaller the price he receives for his produce compared to the price actually paid by the consumer; for the further producer and consumer are separated, the larger is that portion of the value of the product absorbed by shippers, transportation companies, speculators and various middlemen. Thus the further the farmer is separated from the market for his products, the smaller, relatively to the price paid by the consumer, must be the price he receives for his products, and the higher the price he pays for the manufactured goods he consumes. Taxed as a producer by having to sell at lower prices, and as a consumer by having to buy at higher prices, his labor becomes less remunerative, the further he is separated from his market. Consequently, the protective system, by fostering the development of domestic industries and thus bringing farmer and manufacturer together, has benefited the farmer by tending to free him from dependence on a foreign market, both as a producer and consumer.

But protection alone will not bring prosperity to our farmers so long as we persist in the policy of gold mono-metallism. An appreciating dollar, causing lower and constantly falling prices, leads to the centering of money in the financial centres and tends to separate producer from consumer. In this way the gold standard undermines the benefits the farmer should derive from protection. Moreover, the divergence in the value of gold and silver, caused by demonetizing silver, has built up competition with silver-using peoples for the European markets that has impoverished our farmers.

And against this artificially stimulated competition there is only one protection. We must remove the artificial cause which has led to the premium on gold as measured by silver, and that can be done only by returning to bimetallism. Under the gold standard, and while forced to compete with the products of silver-using countries, our farmers cannot prosper, and so long as our agricultural classes are impoverished our manufacturers cannot prosper. The less our farmers receive for their produce the less will they have with which to purchase manufactured goods, and consequently the narrower the market for such goods and the lower, prices.

To what extent our farmers have been impoverished by the fall in prices is indicated in part by the following table, prepared from reports of the Department of Agriculture, and showing the acreage, production, and value of our cereal crops for 1872, the year before the demonetization of silver, and for 1895.

Estimated Acreage, Production and value of the Cereal Crops of the United States.

	1872.			1895.		
	Area of Crop Acres.	Production Bushels.	Value of Crop Dollars.	Area of Crop Acres.	Production Bushels.	Value of Crop Dollars.
Corn	35,526,836	1,092,719,000	\$435,149,290	82,075,830	2,151,138,580	\$567,509,106
Wheat	20,858,339	249,997,100	310,180,375	34,047,332	467,102,947	237,938,998
Oats	9,000,769	271,747,000	91,315,710	27,878,406	824,443,537	163,655,068
Barley	1,397,082	26,846,400	19,837,773	3,299,973	87,072,744	29,312,413
Rye	1,048,654	14,888,600	11,363,698	1,890,345	27,210,070	11,964,826
Buckwheat	448,497	8,133,500	6,747,618	768,277	15,341,399	6,936,525
	68,280,197	1,664,331,600	\$874,594,459	149,955,163	\$1,572,309,277	\$1,017,316,986

It will be noted how the acreage brought under tillage has

been increased, how production has been more than doubled, yet how the increase in value has been comparatively slight. Our farmers tilled and harvested 2 1-5 acres of cereals in 1895 where they tilled one in 1872, but while the expenditure in labor was more than doubled in raising cereals, while the acreage tilled was 120 per cent. greater in 1895 than in 1872, the farmers who spent more than twice as much labor, and raised more than double the quantity of grain, received but \$1.16 in 1895 to every \$1.00 in 1872. The value of the yield per acre was \$12.81 in 1872. It was but \$6.78 in 1895.

It may be said that this is not a fair comparison as the price of corn last year, owing to the bounteous crop, was very low. But the corn crop in 1872 was even more bounteous than the crop in 1895, the yield of corn per acre in 1872 being 30 8 bushels, last year but 26.2. In fact the 1872 harvest was more bountiful than the 1895 harvest, which fact, other things being equal, would have tended to make prices lower in 1872 than 1895.

For every acre tilled and planted with cereal crops last year our farmers received \$6.03 less than they did for every acre tilled in 1872. If their labor had been as remunerative in 1895 as it was in 1872 they would have received \$900,000,000 more than they did, and would have had this much more to spend, making a broader market for manufactured goods. Further, it must be remembered that our cereal crops comprise in value only about one half of our agricultural products, and that the losses to the grower of cotton and other produce have been equally great with the losses of the grower of cereals.

The value of cereals raised in 1890, on a smaller acreage, was about \$1,350,000,000 or nearly \$350,000,000 more than in 1895. This much less did the growers of cereals have to spend in 1895 than in 1890, and here in great measure, is the explanation of the unsatisfactory market and lower prices for manufactured goods.

Granting that it would be possible in the face of the premium on gold to protect our manufacturers against foreign competition and preserve the home market by higher tariff duties, it is clear this would not of itself bring the long-sought-for return of prosperity to manufacturers. We are told that higher duties would lead to higher prices and increased production, thus bringing better times to manufacturers. But until we broaden the market, any increase of production must lead to lower prices. Receiving nearly \$350,000,000 less for their cereal crops in 1895 than in 1890, and less for their other produce in like proportion, it is evident that our farmers have less to spend than they had in 1890, and it is clear either their purchases of manufactured goods must be curtailed, or prices must fall so as the smaller amount of money will buy the same amount of goods. Our farmers cannot spend more than they receive for their products, and until they receive better prices for their products the market for manufactured goods will be restricted. Consequently the preservation of such a market to our manufacturers, even if it could be done by higher tariff duties in the face of the premium on gold, which acts as a bounty on all exports from silver-using to gold-using countries, would not bring them real prosperity.

The manufacturer who overlooks the importance to his interests of building up a home market, and restoring prosperity to the farming classes, is a short-sighted protectionist indeed. Bimetallism and Protection must go together.

MANUFACTURERS MUST SPEAK OUT.

FROM a purely economic standpoint, gold-monometallism is antagonistic to protection. From a practical standpoint, protection without bimetallism is an impossibility. Logically bimetallism and protection should be united. Practically they must be united or there can be no higher protection, for unless manufacturers give their support to bimetallism they will lose the

support of those bimetallists, who,—seeing that even higher protective duties than those enacted by the McKinley law, unless joined to bimetallism would not avail to bring renewed prosperity—place bimetallism before protection, and without whose aid the protective system cannot be maintained.

The imposition of higher tariff duties unless accompanied by legislation restoring bimetallism would not serve to materially better the condition of our producing classes in general or bring renewed and continued prosperity to our manufacturers. The enactment of higher tariff legislation such as desired by manufacturers, would, no doubt, momentarily lead to increased activity in industrial establishments and an increased production of manufactured goods. But such manufacturers who increased the output of their mills, believing that the enactment of higher duties would lead to a brisk demand for their goods, and at better prices, would be doomed to early disappointment.

In the first place, much higher tariff duties would not protect our manufacturers against such foreign competition as is directly and indirectly stimulated by the premium on gold, which acts as an automatic protective tariff around all silver using against gold using countries and as a bounty on exports from silver using to gold using countries. And in the second place the market for the output of their mills would not be materially broadened. The brisk demand that many anticipate, would not spring up, for primarily the demand for manufactured goods must come from the agricultural classes and until the latter receive better prices for their products they will not be able to increase their purchases of manufactured goods. And so long as our farmers are obliged to sell their surplus products in direct competition with the producers of silver using countries who enjoy a bounty of 100 per cent. they cannot get better prices. Not until this bounty with which the producers in silver using countries are favored, in competition with our producers, is reduced or wiped out, will our agricultural classes receive more remunerative prices for their products, and not until then will the home market for our manufactured goods be broadened.

And this bounty can be reduced and finally wiped out in but one way, which is to enhance the gold price of silver which can only be done by restoring bimetallism and thus increasing the demand for silver while decreasing the demand for gold. Just as silver rises as measured by gold, this bounty which silver using peoples enjoy will be reduced, the competition our agricultural classes have to contend with in the European markets will become less severe, prices of agricultural products will rise and prosperity return to our farmers and planters.

The restoration of bimetallism can alone result in appreciably broadening the market for manufactured goods, and until we restore bimetallism, enabling our agricultural classes to command higher prices for their products and thus increase their ability to purchase manufactured goods, no tariff can bring real prosperity to our manufacturers.

Republicans who insist that protection and bimetallism must be joined see this and are consequently, as protectionists, as well as bimetallists, quite ready to vote to add to any and every tariff act an amendment opening the mints to the unlimited coinage of silver. And failing to secure such an amendment they are ready to defeat any and every tariff measure.

Nor can those Republicans in the Senate who have taken this stand be moved from their purpose by abuse. They may be spoken of as conspirators and as political blackmailers, not alone by the gold organs of the Democratic party but also of the Republican party, but this will not change their purpose. Such epithets are mis-applied and uncalled for. They are significant only as evidencing the fact that gold Republicans who profess to be protectionists have no logical ground to stand on.

We fancy should a tariff bill be introduced extending ample protection to the wool grower while leaving the manufacturer of

woolens unprotected, these manufacturers would do all in their power to amend the law so as to make it equally protective of their industries, and failing to succeed in this, we fancy they would not hesitate to use their influence to defeat the bill. In such a case the woolen manufacturers would not be accused of political blackmail. On the contrary those pushing an inequitable tariff bill framed so as to protect some industries, but not all, would be referred to and abused as demagogues and conspirators.

Yet when bimetallists take an analogous position to that which the woolen manufacturers would undoubtedly take if confronted with such a suppositional tariff measure as given above, save that they base their position on much broader and general grounds, they are foolishly accused of political blackmail. In the case supposed above the woolen manufacturers would take their stand of opposition on the ground of inequality in the tariff and of an injustice to their special interests, and they would be perfectly justified in so doing. On the other hand bimetallists who insist on joining bimetallism to protection base their position on the much broader ground of an injustice done, not to silver miners, but to all producers in general, and the agricultural classes in particular by the demonetization of silver, and who can receive no protection against competition with silver using countries save by a return to bimetallism. They are not only justified in defeating any tariff bill that does not recognize the rights of the producing classes, and the demands of the agricultural classes for the restoration of bimetallism, but it is their duty to do so.

And fortunately the Republican bimetallists in the Senate have the power to defeat any inequitable measure that may be designed to protect the interests of manufacturers while ignoring the interests of the farming classes. The interests of manufacturers and farmers are naturally bound up together and they are mutually dependent upon each other for a market for their products. They have a common unity of interests and it is folly as well as unjust, to endeavor to restore prosperity to the manufacturing classes while doing nothing to relieve the impoverishment of the agricultural classes. Of the 44 Republicans in the Senate there are 15 who take this view and are ready, if need be, to vote against the passage of any tariff measure that does not recognize equally the interests of all classes and carry an amendment restoring bimetallism. Such being the case it is a practical impossibility to pass protective tariff legislation unless joined with bimetallic legislation.

It will not do for manufacturers, if they wish to preserve the protective system, to antagonize the interests of the agricultural classes, and to ridicule those who join bimetallism and protection. The agricultural classes will support a joint policy of bimetallism and protection, but they will repudiate protection if joined to gold-monometallism. They cannot be expected to give their support to, and aid the passage of, high tariff legislation, designed primarily to benefit the manufacturers, unless the manufacturers in turn recognize their interests and aid them in restoring bimetallism. Just as surely as the manufacturers antagonize the restoration of bimetallism and the interests of the farmers and planters, the agricultural classes will retaliate and antagonize the protective system.

There seems to be a disposition among some to belittle the agricultural interests, but neither economically nor politically can our manufacturers afford to ignore the interests of our farming classes, comprising forty per cent. of our population. We are told by those who seem to take pleasure in exalting the importance of the manufacturing interests and belittling the relative importance of agriculture, that the value of our manufactured products exceeds by four times the value of our agricultural products, that the value of agricultural products in 1890 was but two-and-a-half billion dollars, while the value of our manufactures was nine-and-a-half billion dollars. Such a statement is misleading. The reported value of our manufactured products is made up, in great part, of duplications. When the value of cotton and woolen yarn

manufactures is given, it includes the cost of the raw cotton and wool, which is value in no way conferred by manufacture, and when in turn the value of manufactures of cloth is given, the cost of the yarn is included in the reported value of the product, thus reduplicating the value of the cotton and wool which went to make up part of the value of the yarn, and duplicating in turn the cost of the yarn. And so it is all through manufactured products. Therefore the relative value of manufactured to agricultural products appears much greater than it really is.

Unless manufacturers are prepared to abandon the protective system, they must speak out boldly for bimetallism and protection. Protection without bimetallism is impossible, economically and practically, and if manufacturers are bent on having gold-monometallism, they must take it along with free trade. It therefore behoves manufacturers—who see that tariff duties cannot be made high enough to be protective against competition with silver using peoples enjoying a bounty of 100 per cent., and who see that the enactment of higher tariff duties will not bring better times unless, at the same time, we restore prosperity to the agricultural classes and thus broaden the market for manufactured goods—to speak out unmistakably and promptly for bimetallism, and declare their belief that Bimetallism and Protection must be united.

ASSERTIONS VS. FACTS.

THE New York *Tribune* states it is not true that money since 1873 has shunned investment in productive industries,—this in reply to our statement that the discarding of silver as a money metal, the consequent curtailment of the supply of money and the resulting appreciation of gold and fall of prices making production unprofitable has led to the centering of money in the financial centers.

Money shuns investment in productive enterprises and the products of labor only when prices are falling. When prices are rising, owners of money are anxious to invest it in the products of labor, so as to participate in the rise, and in productive industries that are made profitable by such rise. Consequently, as the fall of prices since 1873 has not been uninterrupted, money has not continuously shunned investment in productive industries since 1873.

The coinage of silver under the Bland Act leading to a rise in prices, the years following its passage and marked by rising prices, were years of great industrial development. Prices rose on an average over twelve per cent. in three years following the passage of the Bland Act, reaching high-water mark in 1872. Unfortunately the coinage of silver under the Bland Act did not provide for the needed addition to our supply of money to maintain the stability of prices at this level, and as with the growing demands of trade the demand for money grew faster than the supply, money appreciated and prices gradually fell. But it must not be forgotten that while the increase of our coinage under the Bland Act was not sufficient to maintain prices at the high level reached in 1872 it was sufficient to prevent prices from falling so rapidly as to bring general disaster and paralysis of industry.

It is since our currency has been reduced to the gold basis by an arbitrary interpretation of the parity clause of the Sherman Act, and the silver in the Treasury discarded as money available for redemption purposes, the burden of supporting both Treasury notes and silver certificates, as well as greenbacks, being thrown on gold alone, that the fall in prices has been so rapid as to bring universal disaster, make productive enterprises unprofitable and paralyze industry. And mark how, since 1891, as prices have fallen rapidly and continuously, money has shunned investment. The following table shows how the gold holdings of the European banks have grown during this period, how money has been withdrawn from circulation and of necessity from productive enter-

prises and hoarded in the banks. The figures are taken from *L'Economiste Europeen*:

Date.	Gold Holdings of the European Banks of Issue.
Dec. 31, 1890,	\$936,918,500
" 1891,	1,089,041,100
" 1892,	1,197,970,300
" 1893,	1,180,484,500
" 1894,	1,341,736,000
" 1895,	1,487,875,600
Mar. 12, 1896,	1,497,429,100

Does not this show conclusively that some cause during the past five years has led to a centering of money in the financial centers? And this cause is the steady fall of prices.

The *Tribune* also says there are mountains of proof showing that prices have risen in silver-using countries since the fall in silver, as measured in gold, set in after the demonetization of silver in 1873, and hence that it is not true that silver-using peoples can sell their products in gold-using countries for one-half the price they could twenty years ago (silver having fallen as measured by gold one-half) without reducing the real price they receive in payment. The *Tribune* speaks of mountains of proof, but it does not submit the proof. It contents itself with an assertion that is not borne out by the facts.

Prices in silver-using countries of commodities of domestic production have not risen. They have fluctuated within narrow limits, remaining practically stable. Of course the silver price of commodities imported from gold-using countries has risen, and this acts as a protective tariff, but prices of domestic products have not risen with the fall in the gold price of silver, but actually fallen. This is made clear by the following tables.

Prices in India since the closing of the Indian mints have been measured in a rupee, that has been given an artificial value by limiting the supply, and has not fluctuated with the price of silver bullion, so we may, for the time being, pass Indian prices by. Witness, therefore, the course of prices in China, where affected by no such cause, and where they are measured in silver bullion. The course of prices is indicated by the following index numbers, comprising twenty Chinese staple commodities, and compiled by Mr. W. S. Wetmore, of Shanghai, from the trade returns of the Imperial Chinese Customs, these latter, under the direction of Sir Robert Hart. Also for ready reference we append a table, based on Sauerbeck's tables, showing the course of British (gold) prices in contrast to Chinese (silver) prices. We have compared the prices as indicated by Sauerbeck's tables to average prices in 1873, taking 1873 prices as the unit and not the average price for eleven years—1867-1877—as in the original tables:

Course of prices as indicated by general index number.

Year.	Course of silver prices. Chinese.	Course of gold prices. British.
1873	100.	100.
1874	90.7	91.9
1875	89.3	86.5
1876	96.5	85.6
1877	101.5	84.7
1878	105.1	78.4
1879	101.1	74.8
1880	96.2	79.3
1881	97.	76.6
1882	99.3	75.7
1883	95.8	73.9
1884	94.1	68.5
1885	92.7	64.9
1886	92.9	62.2
1887	88.7	61.3
1888	88.1	63.1
1889	90.1	64.9
1890	90.4	64.9
1891	87.4	64.9
1892	88.1	61.3

This brings us down to the year before the closing of the Indian mints, and shows that the purchasing power of silver was greater in 1892 than in 1873, and slightly greater than in 1874 and 1875, as, it is evident, 88.1 taels in 1892 would buy as much

on the average of Chinese commodities generally as 100 taels in 1873, as 90.7 taels in 1874, or 89.3 taels in 1875.

And what happened after the closing of the Indian mints and the violent fall of silver as measured by gold? Did silver prices rise equally? Not at all. The purchasing power of silver remained practically undiminished.

The following table is also based on tables prepared by Mr. W. S. Wetmore, average prices ruling during the five months immediately preceding the closing of the Indian mints—January 21st to June 21st, 1893—being taken as a basis for comparison. The second column shows the approximate value of silver prices as compared to prices ruling in 1873, and the third column the course of British gold prices; the second and third columns being continuations of the first and second columns in the table already given.

Course of prices as indicated by index numbers.

	Course of silver prices. Chinese.	Course of gold prices. British.
Jan. 21 to June 21, 1893,	100	88 }
July 5 to Aug. 30, 1893,	98.5	86.7 }
Mar. 14 to Aug. 15, 1894,	100.8	88.7 }
Sept. 16 to Dec. 31, 1894,	103.5	91.1 }

About 90 taels buying as much on the average of Chinese commodities to-day, when silver is 69 cents an ounce, as 100 taels bought in 1873, when silver was \$1.29 cents an ounce, it is evident that Chinese products can be sold in gold-using countries for less than one-half the price in gold than was possible when silver was worth \$1.29 an ounce. Or, accurately, 90 ounces of silver buying as much to-day in China as 100 ounces in 1873, and these 90 ounces, costing in gold 69 cents an ounce, instead of \$1.29 an ounce, \$62.10 in gold will buy as much to-day as \$129 in gold in 1873, or 106 per cent more—6 per cent. more than twice as much. Consequently, the Chinese can sell their produce in our markets for less than one-half the price they could before silver was demonetized. And what is true of the Chinese is true of other silver-using peoples.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

I DO not know, dear, if she looks like you—
This recent woman, naively named "the new;"

I only know

The dear, sweet woman of the long ago;

And love her so

In weal and woe,

I stray but seldom where the bloomers blow!

I do not know, dear, if her eyes are blue
As April violets twinkling in the dew;

I only know

The dear, sweet eyes that make the morning glow;

And love them so,

In joy and woe.

I rarely ride, dear, where the bloomers blow!

I do not know, dear, if her love is true;

Has it been tested? Like herself, 'tis new;

I only know

That, old or new, love makes the roses grow;

And so, and so—

(Nay, dear, don't go!)

Love yet may lead me where the bloomers blow!

**

One of the best mining experts in Arizona is a woman, and another woman expert in the same line is Mrs. Clara Wood, of Klamath, Oregon. She is said to know more about the mineralogy of the Klamath river than any other person, and her knowledge has a high commercial value to her.

**

Thirty years of expert work as a telegraph operator is the record of Mrs. Fannie M. Merryfield. For the last twelve years Mrs. Merryfield has been in Cheyenne, holding the position of night wire chief, and having in charge eight duplex and two quad sets, besides the Wheatstone repeaters and Morse repeaters.

**

A lady of rank, says a foreign paper, losing patience with her maid, gave her a sound drubbing and bade her look for

another situation. On the day of her departure the young woman received her month's wages, and packed her trunks, after which she submissively betook herself to her ladyship's dressing-room to fix up her hair for the last time. The Countess sat down in her armchair, when the maid proceeded to secure her large plait to the back of the chair, and commenced to slap her mistress's face to her heart's content. She then dropped a curtsey, and, quickly descending the staircase, got into the cab and drove off to her new quarters.

A WORD WITH THE DOCTOR.

THAT longevity is promoted by friction there can be little doubt. The declining energy and decay from age appear to arise, or, at all events, are accomplished and accelerated by the gradually decreasing energy of the circulation, and the use of the flesh brush restores energy to the parts. It is, therefore, recommended as a panacea for premature decay and all the diseases depending on it. It takes but a few minutes to give a vigorous rubbing to the entire body on jumping out of bed in the morning, and the beneficial results will amply repay the time and trouble.

Will you kindly inform me of a good remedy for insomnia—something which will produce a good sound sleep without danger of contracting a habit?

Sulphonal is a very good remedy. Take fifteen grains in hot milk or water at bed time and repeat the dose in an hour or two, if necessary.

Experiments with roasted coffee prove it to be a powerful means of rendering harmless and destroying animal and vegetable effluvia. If a room needs a disinfectant, simply carry a coffee-roaster, in which a pound of coffee has been newly-roasted, through it. But the best mode of using the coffee is to dry the raw bean, pound it in a mortar, and then roast the powder on a moderately heated oven or tin plate, until it becomes a dark brown color. Then sprinkle it in sinks and cesspools, or expose it on a plate in the room.

The great harm that "cough mixtures" produce is almost unlimited, and should be regarded as a relic of ancient and unscientific methods of practice. Cough mixtures, as a general rule, do more harm than good, and their reckless and indiscriminate use should be carefully considered by physicians. A patient comes to you with a cough. The first thing you do is to give him a cough mixture, and nine times out of ten the principal ingredient is opium. 'Tis true, opium may lessen the tendency to cough, but it does a great damage by arresting the normal secretions, and the system becomes affected by the poisons from the kidneys, skin, stomach, intestines, the pulmonary structures and the mucous membrane lining the upper air-passages. You might as well take a brush and varnish your patient all over, as to fill him with cough mixtures. Death is almost as certain from one as from the other, and yet they recover often in spite of the cough mixture. Not only do these mixtures arrest every secretion in the body, but they also show their deteriorating and degrading effect through the stomach. They contain nauseants which tend to disorder and derange digestion.

LITERARY NOTES.

AMONG THE MAGAZINE WRITERS, NEWSPAPER MEN, AUTHORS AND ARTISTS.

THIS week's *Youth's Companion* has a comprehensive article from the Hon. Hoke Smith, Secretary of the Interior, on the Indian problem and how the law, as administered by the great department over which he presides, deals with the wards of the nation. Adding to the attractiveness of this issue are three good stories, together with the concluding chapters of "To Babylon in a Steam Launch," and an article by Kirk Munroe on the banana as "The Most Valuable Fruit in the World."

Harper & Brothers are now publishing Mary Anderson de Navarro's "A Few Memories," Mary E. Marr's new novel, "Susannah," a new book by Max Pemberton, "A Gentleman's

Gentleman," "Whist Laws and Whist Decisions," by Major-General A. W. Drayson; "A Laodicean" (new edition), by Thomas Hardy, and a story by W. D. Howells, "A Parting and A Meeting."

McClure's Magazine for April has for its leading article an illustrated account or report of a visit of one of that magazine's representatives to Professor Roentgen's laboratory while the latter was conducting his famous experiments. Anthony Hope's new romance opens in an interesting way, and Low's "A Century of Painting," treats entertainingly of Corot, Rousseau and their fellows of the Barbizon school of painters. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps tells how she had produced the best known of her works, "The Gates Ajar"; and the valuable biography of Lincoln is continued in several attractive chapters.

The American Manufacturer and Iron World, Pittsburg, Pa., issued a big supplement last week containing a report of a recent hearing before the Massachusetts Legislature's Committee on Manufactures on the important subject of Coke Oven Gas—its production, value, transportation and uses, with the value, etc., of the other products of Coking in "By-Product Coke Ovens." *The American Manufacturer* is an influential and ably-edited trades journal, fully deserving the extensive and substantial patronage which it receives from a continually widening circle of readers and advertisers.

The Texas Commercial Review will make its bow to an expectant public in Fort Worth on the 1st proximo. It is to be a monthly trades' journal, devoted to the fostering of home industries, and will have a hustling, wide-awake business manager in the person of Harry Meyer.

Copeland & Day, 69 Cornhill, Boston, announce for publication, during this month: "The Road to Castaly," a book of poems by Alice Brown, authoress of "Meadow Grass," cloth, octavo, \$1.00; "The Captured Cunarder," by William H. Riding, oct., 75c.; "In the Village of Viger," by Duncan Campbell Scott, cloth, oct., \$1.00; "Lyrics of Earth," by Archibald Lampman, oct., \$1.25, and III Oaten Stop Series—"Undertones," by Madison Cowen; IV, "Soul and Sense," by Hannah Parker Kimball, small oct., 75c. each.

Our genial and heartsome old friend, Mr. Patrick Donahoe, of the Boston *Pilot*, celebrated his eighty-third birthday anniversary last week. May health, happiness and prosperity long attend him.

Mr. W. W. Astor has appointed Sir Douglas Straight to succeed Henry Cust as editor of *The Pall Mall Gazette*. The new editor has had some experience in journalism, and was for many years Justice at Allahabad, British India, a position from which he retired with a liberal pension in 1891.

The Easter number of *Harper's Bazar* is out to-day, and is distinguished by an extra supplement and a decorated cover. It is full of the Easter sentiment as expressed in fashions suitable to the season, elegant gowns, wraps and "lovely" Easter hats and bonnets. Marion Harland contributes a strong story, "Jim Purdy, Martyr."

A double-page drawing by A. B. Frost is one of the pictorial features of *Harper's Weekly* for the 28th inst. The same number also contains, under the caption, "The Redemption of the Plains," a valuable article on the semi-arid regions of the West, with a discussion of measures that may be taken to bring them under cultivation.

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1889	90.1	64.9
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on the average of Chinese commodities generally as 100 taels in 1873, as 90.7 taels in 1874, or 89.3 taels in 1875.

And what happened after the closing of the Indian mints and the violent fall of silver as measured by gold? Did silver prices rise equally? Not at all. The purchasing power of silver remained practically undiminished.

The following table is also based on tables prepared by Mr. W. S. Wetmore, average prices ruling during the five months immediately preceding the closing of the Indian mints—January 21st to June 21st, 1893—being taken as a basis for comparison. The second column shows the approximate value of silver prices as compared to prices ruling in 1873, and the third column the course of British gold prices; the second and third columns being continuations of the first and second columns in the table already given.

Course of prices as indicated by index numbers.

	Course of silver prices. Chinese.	Course of gold prices. British.
Jan. 21 to June 21, 1893,	100	88
July 5 to Aug. 30, 1893,	98.5	86.7
Mar. 14 to Aug. 15, 1894,	100.8	88.7
Sept. 16 to Dec. 31, 1894,	103.5	91.1

About 90 taels buying as much on the average of Chinese commodities to-day, when silver is 69 cents an ounce, as 100 taels bought in 1873, when silver was \$1.29 cents an ounce, it is evident that Chinese products can be sold in gold-using countries for less than one-half the price in gold than was possible when silver was worth \$1.29 an ounce. Or, accurately, 90 ounces of silver buying as much to-day in China as 100 ounces in 1873, and these 90 ounces, costing in gold 69 cents an ounce, instead of \$1.29 an ounce, \$62.10 in gold will buy as much to-day as \$129 in gold in 1873, or 106 per cent more—6 per cent, more than twice as much. Consequently, the Chinese can sell their produce in our markets for less than one-half the price they could before silver was demonetized. And what is true of the Chinese is true of other silver-using peoples.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

I DO not know, dear, if she looks like you—
This recent woman, naively named "the new;"
I only know
The dear, sweet woman of the long ago;
And love her so,
In weal and woe,
I stray but seldom where the bloomers blow!

I do not know, dear, if her eyes are blue
As April violets twinkling in the dew;
I only know
The dear, sweet eyes that make the morning glow;
And love them so,
In joy and woe,
I rarely ride, dear, where the bloomers blow!

I do not know, dear, if her love is true;
Has it been tested? Like herself, 'tis new;
I only know
That, old or new, love makes the roses grow;
And so, and so—
(Nay, dear, don't go!)
Love yet may lead me where the bloomers blow!

**

One of the best mining experts in Arizona is a woman, and another woman expert in the same line is Mrs. Clara Wood, of Klamath, Oregon. She is said to know more about the mineralogy of the Klamath river than any other person, and her knowledge has a high commercial value to her.

**

Thirty years of expert work as a telegraph operator is the record of Mrs. Fannie M. Merryfield. For the last twelve years Mrs. Merryfield has been in Cheyenne, holding the position of night wire chief, and having in charge eight duplex and two quad sets, besides the Wheatstone repeaters and Morse repeaters.

**

A lady of rank, says a foreign paper, losing patience with her maid, gave her a sound drubbing and bade her look for

another situation. On the day of her departure the young woman received her month's wages, and packed her trunks, after which she submissively betook herself to her ladyship's dressing-room to fix up her hair for the last time. The Countess sat down in her armchair, when the maid proceeded to secure her large plait to the back of the chair, and commenced to slap her mistress's face to her heart's content. She then dropped a curtsey, and, quickly descending the staircase, got into the cab and drove off to her new quarters.

A WORD WITH THE DOCTOR.

THAT longevity is promoted by friction there can be little doubt. The declining energy and decay from age appear to arise, or, at all events, are accomplished and accelerated by the gradually decreasing energy of the circulation, and the use of the flesh brush restores energy to the parts. It is, therefore, recommended as a panacea for premature decay and all the diseases depending on it. It takes but a few minutes to give a vigorous rubbing to the entire body on jumping out of bed in the morning, and the beneficial results will amply repay the time and trouble.

**

Will you kindly inform me of a good remedy for insomnia—something which will produce a good sound sleep without danger of contracting a habit?

Sulphonal is a very good remedy. Take fifteen grains in hot milk or water at bed time and repeat the dose in an hour or two, if necessary.

**

Experiments with roasted coffee prove it to be a powerful means of rendering harmless and destroying animal and vegetable effluvia. If a room needs a disinfectant, simply carry a coffee-roaster, in which a pound of coffee has been newly-roasted, through it. But the best mode of using the coffee is to dry the raw bean, pound it in a mortar, and then roast the powder on a moderately heated oven or tin plate, until it becomes a dark brown color. Then sprinkle it in sinks and cesspools, or expose it on a plate in the room.

**

The great harm that "cough mixtures" produce is almost unlimited, and should be regarded as a relic of ancient and unscientific methods of practice. Cough mixtures, as a general rule, do more harm than good, and their reckless and indiscriminate use should be carefully considered by physicians. A patient comes to you with a cough. The first thing you do is to give him a cough mixture, and nine times out of ten the principal ingredient is opium. 'Tis true, opium may lessen the tendency to cough, but it does a great damage by arresting the normal secretions, and the system becomes affected by the poisons from the kidneys, skin, stomach, intestines, the pulmonary structures and the mucous membrane lining the upper air-passages. You might as well take a brush and varnish your patient all over, as to fill him with cough mixtures. Death is almost as certain from one as from the other, and yet they recover often in spite of the cough mixture. Not only do these mixtures arrest every secretion in the body, but they also show their deteriorating and degrading effect through the stomach. They contain nauseants which tend to disorder and derange digestion.

LITERARY NOTES.

AMONG THE MAGAZINE WRITERS, NEWSPAPER MEN, AUTHORS AND ARTISTS.

THIS week's *Youth's Companion* has a comprehensive article from the Hon. Hoke Smith, Secretary of the Interior, on the Indian problem and how the law, as administered by the great department over which he presides, deals with the wards of the nation. Adding to the attractiveness of this issue are three good stories, together with the concluding chapters of "To Babylon in a Steam Launch," and an article by Kirk Munroe on the banana as "The Most Valuable Fruit in the World."

**

Harper & Brothers are now publishing Mary Anderson de Navarro's "A Few Memories," Mary E. Marr's new novel, "Susannah," a new book by Max Pemberton, "A Gentleman's

Gentleman," "Whist Laws and Whist Decisions," by Major-General A. W. Drayson; "A Laodicean" (new edition), by Thomas Hardy, and a story by W. D. Howells, "A Parting and A Meeting."

**

McClure's Magazine for April has for its leading article an illustrated account or report of a visit of one of that magazine's representatives to Professor Roentgen's laboratory while the latter was conducting his famous experiments. Anthony Hope's new romance opens in an interesting way, and Low's "A Century of Painting," treats entertainingly of Corot, Rousseau and their fellows of the Barbizon school of painters. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps tells how she had produced the best known of her works, "The Gates Ajar"; and the valuable biography of Lincoln is continued in several attractive chapters.

**

The American Manufacturer and Iron World, Pittsburg, Pa., issued a big supplement last week containing a report of a recent hearing before the Massachusetts Legislature's Committee on Manufactures on the important subject of Coke Oven Gas—its production, value, transportation and uses, with the value, etc., of the other products of Coking in "By-Product Coke Ovens." *The American Manufacturer* is an influential and ably-edited trades journal, fully deserving the extensive and substantial patronage which it receives from a continually widening circle of readers and advertisers.

**

The Texas Commercial Review will make its bow to an expectant public in Fort Worth on the 1st proximo. It is to be a monthly trades' journal, devoted to the fostering of home industries, and will have a hustling, wide-awake business manager in the person of Harry Meyer.

**

Copeland & Day, 69 Cornhill, Boston, announce for publication, during this month : "The Road to Castaly," a book of poems by Alice Brown, authoress of "Meadow Grass," cloth, octavo, \$1.00; "The Captured Cunarder," by William H. Riding, oct., 75c.; "In the Village of Viger," by Duncan Campbell Scott, cloth, oct., \$1.00; "Lyrics of Earth," by Archibald Lampman, oct., \$1.25, and III Oaten Stop Series—"Undertones," by Madison Cowein; IV, "Soul and Sense," by Hannah Parker Kimball, small oct., 75c. each.

**

Our genial and heartsome old friend, Mr. Patrick Donahoe, of the Boston *Pilot*, celebrated his eighty-third birthday anniversary last week. May health, happiness and prosperity long attend him.

**

Mr. W. W. Astor has appointed Sir Douglas Straight to succeed Henry Cust as editor of *The Pall Mall Gazette*. The new editor has had some experience in journalism, and was for many years Justice at Allahabad, British India, a position from which he retired with a liberal pension in 1891.

**

The Easter number of *Harper's Bazar* is out to-day, and is distinguished by an extra supplement and a decorated cover. It is full of the Easter sentiment as expressed in fashions suitable to the season, elegant gowns, wraps and "lovely" Easter hats and bonnets. Marion Harland contributes a strong story, "Jim Purdy, Martyr."

**

A double-page drawing by A. B. Frost is one of the pictorial features of *Harper's Weekly* for the 28th inst. The same number also contains, under the caption, "The Redemption of the Plains," a valuable article on the semi-arid regions of the West, with a discussion of measures that may be taken to bring them under cultivation.

OUR PARIS LETTER.

The Defeat at Adoua.—Has Left Italy with Loss of Prestige Abroad and Confronted with Dangers at Home.—Possibility of the Overthrow of the Monarchy and Foreign Intervention.—Will a United Italy be a Thing of the Past?—France and the Socialists.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

PARIS, March 13, 1896.

BEFORE my letter can reach home, you will have learned all the details of the terrible Italian discomfiture at Adoua, or rather, all such as the Italian government may elect to publish, for the public will never be really informed of the magnitude of that disaster. All that we do know is: the "grandsons of the she-wolf" were vastly outnumbered; the 8,000 black troops—Ascaris—fought gallantly; the white, as a rule, broke and ran when charged by the Abyssinian lancers, abandoning their artillery—eleven batteries—of which the majority of the pieces could never get into position; the Commander-in-Chief and his coadjutor, General Ellena, made a splendid record of equitation, never checking their gallop for dear life until at some seventy miles distance from the battle field; General Du Bormida, and with him two hundred officers and five thousand—some say ten thousand—soldiers are killed, wounded or missing, and no one can tell whether the "savage hordes" may not continue their victorious march to Kassala, perhaps even to the shores of the Red Sea and the environs of Massaouah.

King Humbert in a Quandary.

Signor Crispi's *megalomaniac* policy has not been a success; quite the contrary, indeed, although he ought not to be saddled with all its responsibility. The son of Victor Emanuel ought to share it, and, strange to say, he continues to bestride his hobby, and will have nothing to do with any Ministry which will not formally pledge itself to a policy of *revanche*. Rudini refuses to continue the African adventure; so does General Ricotti, once Minister of War, who predicts an absolute failure to any such enterprise unless a milliard of money and at least 200,000 soldiers, neither of which obligatory elements of eventual possible success can be supplied by a nation already virtually bankrupt. Humbert is in a sad dilemma; he is forced to choose between two equally disastrous solutions: if he continues the war he will lose his last battalion and his few remaining millions; if he throws up the sponge, he will bear the odium of a humiliation without precedent in history, he will have backed down before a people whom he stupidly qualified as "barbarians," and a prince whom he contemptuously assimilated to the "Nigger Kings" (*sic*) of the Black Continent.

Whichever way Humbert turns, the issue from this deadlock is a national break up, possibly the fall of the dynasty of Savoy; it is the irremediable collapse of those extravagant ambitions which had for their object and their encouragement the disappearance of French influence. And what will the whilom friends and "allies" of Italy do for her in this her hour of anguish? A few days hence we may be able to judge authoritatively; but, even now, we may conjecture that the natural egotism which detaches the strong from the weak, will abandon the Italian monarchy to its fate.

Italian Friendlessness.

The European press is a fair criterion for the formation of an opinion, and with the exception of the *Berliner Tagblatt*, which counsels "confidence, and the energetic preparation of a *grand war* whose results must be victory," the newspapers of England, Austria and Germany agree to recommend an amicable arrangement with King Menelik. The *Indépendance Belge* estimates Italy to be a "neglected quality in all the future calculations of European diplomacy;" the *Metropole* of Antwerp, like the *Vienna Post*, fears that the Italians, urged on by their Franco-

phobic demagogues, may seek to avenge their defeat by some aggression upon the French, unjustly accused as accomplices of the Abyssinians. The *Metropole* says: "All Europe watches with emotion the phases of this conflict, where so many children of luminous and artistic Italy have perished miserably in the gorges of Ethiopia. But the sympathies of the whole civilized world must be *with* the Negus and *against* Crispi, in favor of the valorous Abyssinians, against the Italian invaders. This little Christian nation has maintained its independence for ten centuries, has saved during those ten centuries its faith and the traditions of ancient Occidental civilization, like an island in mid-ocean, firm against the surging floods of Islamism. In all his dealings with the Italians, Menelik has been loyal, courteous and humane; in all theirs, the Italians have been treacherous and dishonest. They tricked him into the signature of that treaty of Uaciali, of which the translation submitted to and accepted by him was not in conformity with the original document. When he learned the truth, he denounced the treaty and refused the onerous conditions imposed by his juggler. Right and justice are on the side of the African monarch, who, so far, has remained strictly on the defensive. He has, after each of his crushing victories asked for peace, stipulating only the independence of his country, and the maintenance of its ancient frontiers."

As Viewed in Russia.

You will notice that Italy has not a "good press," and the criticisms of the Austrian and German newspapers, at first hypocritically commiserative, seem to accentuate their tone of contemptuous censure. This tendency is especially manifest in military organs and in the officers' clubs, where not only the incompetency but the personal courage of the chiefs and subalterns is harshly judged. This change of attitude on the part of those who, at the outset of the campaign, covered Messrs. Crispi and consorts with flowers, excites Russian indignation which thus expresses itself: "Reciprocal esteem seems to be a virtue unknown in the Triple Alliance, whose imprecations against an ally in distress give a poor opinion of the mutual consideration of its members. Crispi was the propagator and champion of the Triple Alliance; now those whom he defended sneer at and condemn him." That the Russians are displeased by the incidents of the situation it would be idle to pretend. They see in a near future the dissolution of a partnership aimed against them. "The Triple Alliance," they say, "is weakened by Italy's defeats; it is scarcely renewable, especially considering that the liquidation of the Bulgarian question has already destroyed all reason for its existence."

In short, Italy is in a very bad fix, and may soon be forced to show what her famous *fara da se* is worth. Her sovereign, unable to plaster a *quasi* Crispinian Ministry is obliged to accept a Ricotti-Rudini Cabinet, and as these statesmen are absolutely opposed to the African enterprise, as Humbert is equally absolute in favor of its continuation, he may abdicate to save personal humiliation. And what then? Here is the legendary "bottle of ink" out of which may come grave complications and among these are two particularly to be feared: 1, an explosion of Gallo-phobia that may provoke a war with the French before the expiration of the tripartite contract and bring in its other two elements; 2, the proclamation of an Italian republic. With one or both of these possible eventualities is undoubtedly connected the visit of Count Goluchowski, the Austrian Prime Minister to Berlin. Italy having demonstrated her utter worthlessness as a military co-efficient her former friends are devising ways and means to escape from the bad bargain of mutual aid and comfort. Certainly they will creep out of it, war being undesirable to both.

A Possible Break Up of Italian Unity.

But what will they do if the monarchy should fall in the peninsula, both hating republicanism in the abstract, and, above all, its conception and application by the Old World? Here the diagnosis of political doctors is: "Sooner or later, a republic will

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be proclaimed in Italy, under some highfalutin' name. It will not hold together as an unit three months, and will be followed by the constitution of a number of sub-republics—the unity of Italy, so vaunted in the past, being a mere geographical expression, and never at any time being synonymous with the union of Italian peoples. But, whether as a great whole or as a federation of fractions, its establishment will never be tolerated by its monarchical neighbors. Wherefore, in the interests of law and order as a matter of course—Austria will immediately re-occupy Venetia and the Milanais—and a good thing, too, will it be for the Milanese and Venetians. Some Prussian candidate will constitute Tuscany, Lucca and Parma as a kingdom of Etruria; Naples, having been the scene of sanguinary disorders, will be allotted to some other chosen vessel, perhaps to the Count of Caserta, the legitimate pretender to its Bourbon throne; England—again in the interests of humanity, etc., etc.—will occupy Sicily, and the representatives of the Savoy dynasty will return to the cradle of their race, Piedmont, where the population, of all classes, is staunchly loyal to its king. Nor is much opposition expected to the realization of this program. Russia is quite uninterested in the matter, and if Goluchowski and Hohenlohe can come to terms on the question of *quid pro quo*, nothing can prevent its execution. The French, who might have something to say in the distribution of Italian spoil, being quite disinterested therein, having quite enough to occupy their attention in their home situation, which is not brilliant. But, before touching upon this, let me mention that the news of a Rudini cabinet's formation was hailed at the Bourse by a rise of more than a point in the Italian three per cents. The Hebrew "bull" syndicate put off their scrip on the *gogos*, who lost sight of the fact that Rudini is a staunch supporter of the Triple alliance, and that Blin, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, a rabid Gallophobist, whence it results that, if the African folly be abandoned, it will be only to bring back the troops now there, to be handy for European eventualities. As the French say: *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!* In plain English: it's the same article with a different label!

Quarrels of French Socialists.

To return to French home affairs: there is, or will be, a big deficit in the budget. The Committee of the Chamber appointed to its examination report, by a vote of 29 to 4, against the revenue tax, which it qualifies as "arbitrary, vexatious and inapplicable," refusing even to suggest some compromise with the government. The bill has been protested against by all the commercial and industrial syndicates, and even by some corporations of workingmen. This ought to secure it the honors of a first-class funeral; yet it may pass, for all that, in the Chamber of Deputies, but will be defeated in the Senate; after which we shall witness a renewal of a legislative conflict whose issue is doubtful from the fact that the President is afraid to take a stand against his radical jailors. For Felix, to all intents and purposes, is a prisoner in the hands of the men who worked the most actively against his election at Versailles. This evolution is curious and can only be accounted for by the existence of some skeleton in his family cupboard, of the door of which M. Bourgeois holds the key. "If Faure be not docile, if he resists us, he will be politically a dead man in less than a week," is the declaration ascribed to M. Faure's prime minister. This is promising; yet the danger of a domestic revolution, predicted by the pessimists, is diminished by the intestine quarrels of the Socialists, who have formed a new political party, which demands that all the salaries of Socialist deputies and municipal councillors be paid into the treasury of the "Federative Union," whence an allowance not exceeding \$800 per annum shall be made to each legislator, and a little less to each City Father, and the balance employed for propaganda. Quite naturally, the "elect" of the proletarians have declined the sacrifice. This is one of their disputes; others crop up on every question of detail in the matter of program or of tactics; and, so soon as successful, their efforts are complicated by

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struggles for the division of parliamentary and municipal indemnities.

If this spectacle should encourage universal suffrage to vote for the Socialist regime, French electors are easily pleased. Unfortunately, none are so blind as those who refuse to see; the masses are carried away by the assertions and promises of blatant demagogues; they shut their eyes to facts and figures and yet a wholesome lesson might be learned from both, especially from the latter, of which one item alone ought to suffice: the tax on Stock Exchange operations imagined by the levellers does not come up to expectation; it is 822,000 francs short of the budgetary estimate, for the months of January and February 1896, one million less than it was for the corresponding period in 1895. The additional two francs stamp on all foreign shares has caused this deficit. As I predicted, capitalists negotiate this scrip at London or Brussels; should the increase tax bill pass, not an investment in either home or foreign securities will be made in France by any one possessing a revenue exceeding \$500 per annum, the figures at which the taxation is to begin.

Z.

P. S. The substitution of Duke Sermoneta for Brin in the Italian Cabinet indicates a tendency to secure commercial—not political—relations with the French. A new Italian loan is sought to be floated; the German market is overstocked with Italian securities; London won't look at would-be borrowers and no resource is left other than an appeal to the Parisian Bourse where the Jew influence is omnipotent.

BRIC-A-BRAC.

The expression blackguard originally indicated the scullion, kitchen boys and pot washers, who brought up the rear when a great man's household was moving from place to place. As these persons were by no means choice in their language or elegant in their deportment, the word was soon applied to those who in speech or action resembled them.

.

What is spoken of as "one of the cleverest political poems ever composed," has recently come under the notice of a contributor to a northern contemporary, *The Dundee Advertiser*. It was written by Arthur Connor (or O'Connor), the friend of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and, like him, a prominent figure in the Irish rebellion of 1798. He was arrested at Margate that year, when on his way to France on a secret mission. After being detained in Kilmainham jail for some time, he was at length removed, with other political prisoners, to Fort George in Scotland. It was while on his way thither that he distributed copies of the following poem, which was regarded as a proof of his return to loyalty:

The pomp of courts and pride of kings
I prize above all earthly things.
I love my country, but the king,
Above all men his praise I sing.
The royal banners are displayed,
And may success the standard aid.

I fain would banish far from hence,
The "Rights of Man" and common sense.
Confusion to his odious reign,
That foe to princes, Thomas Paine!
Defeat and ruin seize the cause
Of France, its liberties and laws!

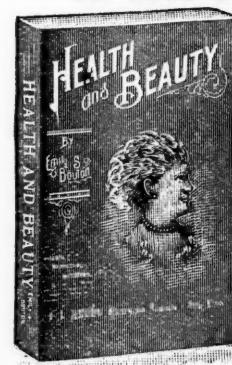
If the above lines be read continuously, they seem to express very loyal sentiments. But if you read the first line of the first verse, and then the first line of the second verse, you will find that they breathe the spirit of rampant rebellion:

The pomp of courts and pride of kings
I fain would banish far from hence.
I prize above all earthly things
The "Rights of Man" and common sense.
I love my country, but the king—
Confusion to his odious reign!

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The royal banners are displayed.
Defeat and ruin seize the cause
And may success the standard aid
Of France, its liberties and laws.

Arthur O'Connor ultimately made his way to France, where, in 1807, he married the daughter of the Marquis de Condorcet. He entered the French army and rose to the rank of general. His death took place in April, 1852, when he was 87 years of age.

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THE AMERICAN, No. 119 S. 4th St., Philada.

March 28, 1896]

THE AMERICAN.

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THE MONETARY QUESTION DISCUSSED.

The Gold Standard vs. the Bimetallic Standard.—Mr. Blankenburg Champions the Gold Standard.—Mr. Kitson Replies.

AT the Unitarian Parlors, Twenty-first and Chestnut streets, on Thursday, March 19th, an address was delivered before the Unitarian Club, by Mr. Rudolph Blankenburg on the "Money Question."

Mr. Blankenburg's Plea for Gold.

Mr. Blankenburg commenced by reading the declaration of principles from the AMERICAN, which was signed by several United States Senators regarding protection and the free coinage of silver. He said he failed to see any principle whatever in this declaration, and ridiculed the idea that our abandonment of silver gave to silver countries any trade advantage that could be termed a bounty. On the contrary, he claimed it would be better for this nation to take all its silver and dump it into the ocean, than to open its mints to its free and unlimited coinage. Gold was the standard of civilized nations, and only semi-civilized people held to the silver basis. It is claimed that gold is insufficient for currency purposes, therefore an inadequate basis, and should be increased by the addition of another metal. But those who made this assertion overlooked the important element of credit. Our modern banking system was founded upon faith, and it was essential that this faith be preserved and remain unshaken. The free silver agitation had unsettled business to an incalculable extent; it had lessened the faith of foreign investors in our securities, and was the parent of financial and industrial depressions. If this agitation could be abolished, prosperity would be ours within a few weeks.

Mr. Blankenburg referred to his trip to Japan and exhibited a Japanese Yen, which he said contained more silver than the American dollar, and yet our dollar was worth twice as much. He spoke of the low wages paid in free silver countries, and said he could not understand the mental conditions of those Senators and citizens who were responsible for all this agitation. The Treasury was now fairly bursting with silver and it has been found wholly impossible to circulate it, notwithstanding all efforts made in that direction. Silver is too bulky, too inconvenient, and is physically unfitted for currency. Gold was the only true basis, since it carried its intrinsic value with it. In conclusion, Mr. Blankenburg hoped some advocate of free silver would undertake to reply to his questions frankly and squarely. As a rule the inflationists invariably dodged the issue.

Mr. Kitson's Reply,

In reply, Mr. Arthur Kitson said he regretted not having an entire evening in which to answer Mr. Blankenburg, since nothing but lack of time would prevent his answering every single question and argument that he had propounded.

Mr. Blankenburg had given as strong an argument against the gold basis as he had ever listened to. He acknowledged the inadequacy of gold, and admitted that this inadequacy was made up in faith. Now faith, said Mr. Kitson, may be all right in matters pertaining to the Celestial, but it was a very insecure basis upon which to build industry. It was extremely unsubstantial, was likely to vanish at a mere rumor, and envelop those who depended upon it in financial ruin. Faith would not buy goods, nor pay taxes. The difference between the free silver coinage advocates, and the gold advocates, consists mainly in this; the former assert that the gold basis should be broadened by the addition of more wealth upon which to issue currency, whilst the latter propose to fill up the gap of an inadequate basis with promises. And, singular as it may appear, the monometallists charge their opponents with *dishonesty* in thus offering tangible security in the place of precarious promises. What this country needs to-day is fewer promises to do the impossible (viz., redeem promises to pay \$20.00 with \$1.00), and more security. It is not true that the Treasury has been unable to circulate silver. Silver circulates just as gold does, in the shape of silver certificates and notes, and these are as good, and passed as readily as gold certificates.

Mr. Blankenburg's contention that silver was too bulky for currency had no weight in view of the fact that paper was now generally issued against specie. The illustration of the low value of the yen in comparison with the American silver dollar was a particularly unfortunate one for a "gold bug" to use. Gold advocates assert that the value of money is due solely to the metal of which it is composed, to what they term its intrinsic value. They repudiate the idea that the value of a coin is due to law

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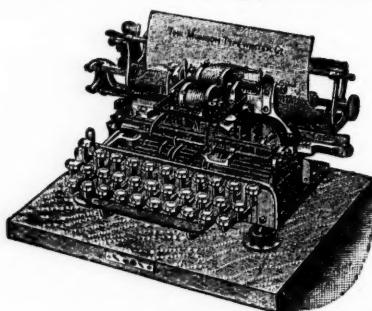
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and the credit of its issuer. The fact that the American dollar had a higher value than the Japanese yen, notwithstanding the greater quantity of silver in the latter, proved conclusively that the value of a coin was dependent upon its debt-paying power, i.e., its legal value, and not to the amount of metal it contained. The fact is that the present value of gold is solely due to legislation, to laws which have given it, among the great commercial nations, a legal monopoly as a debt-paying commodity. If the same nations demonetized gold and remonetized silver, the present value of the two metals would be reversed. Law can bring them together in almost any ratio, by opening a field in which there is practically an unlimited demand. To say that law cannot create and destroy values, is to deny the fundamental law of economics that supply and demand govern values.

It is not true that we are on a gold basis. The unit of value is governed by the supply and demand of all that which functions as money—gold, silver, paper and credit and gold forms but an insignificant proportion of our money. Our unit of value is constantly fluctuating with all of these forms of currency. The only way to establish the gold standard, is to prohibit every other form of currency from circulating, and everything that enters into competition with gold, such as bankers' promises to pay gold. All such promises tend to check the natural demand for gold and hence serve to lower the standard. The truth is, that the gold standard is a myth, and can never be reached. To do so would ruin three-fourths of our commerce and industries. The whole question at issue, is not a mere quarrel over the use of two metals, but it involves a much more momentous one, viz. whether a certain clique of bankers shall continue to control the nation's industries by monopolizing credit.

The control of gold means, under our present infamous statutes, the monopoly of credit, and this gives supreme power over all production and exchange. Regarding the question of wages in silver countries, Mr. Kitson said that a comparison in terms of money gave a very false impression. The important point to know was the relation between the wages and their purchasing powers in the country in which those wages were paid. No silver nation has suffered the many and disastrous business adversities within the past twenty-five years that we have experienced through the constant appreciation of our legal tender. One thing should not be forgotten. The value of money is merely its relation to all other commodities. Hence, dear money, means cheap commodities. It means low prices. The relation of money to commodities may be compared to the two ends of a balance. If one goes up, the other comes down. You cannot have high prices with an insufficient currency. So when the bankers urge you to vote for enhancing their commodities (dollars) they are virtually asking you to cheapen your own products.

In conclusion, Mr. Kitson said that if the self-styled "sound-money" advocates imagined they could kill the free silver agitation, they were deceiving themselves. This agitation is an effect, not a cause. It was the result of the bitter experiences of the laboring and agricultural classes during the last twenty years. It was a grievous wrong inflicted upon the producing classes by law, and nothing could or would satisfy the people but a rectification of those wrongs.

BOOK REVIEWS.

KOKORO ; HINTS AND ECHOES OF JAPANESE INNER LIFE. By Lafcadio Hearn. New York : Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

No one of the several interesting contributors to literature on Japan is so well equipped as Mr. Hearn to tell of the life of the people of that country, and in those delightful books on the island Kingdom which gained for him a well-earned reputation as a writer of grace and intimate information upon the Japanese in their present aspect, there were promises of more good things to follow, some of which are here realized. The book before us is a series of studies, some of distinctly scientific character which bring out certain curiously contrasting facts with regard to the national development and tendencies of the Japanese, and others which are entertaining as cleverly-sketched glimpses of a life at once narrow and sympathetic. Mr. Hearn shows that the sudden appearance of Japan in the field of international politics, as a result of its brilliantly successful war with China, while it has demonstrated the receptiveness of the Japanese mind in one way, has, so far, failed to give promise of changing the traits of that people in so far as they relate to many of their internal affairs, and especially to their cultivation of the arts and those accomplishments which, in the Western world, stand quite as definitely for an advanced civilization as do the more substantial achievements in the matter of mechanical sciences. The emotions of the

Japanese, he says, are not touched by the music and literature of European and American people. They remain true to inherited tastes—tastes which lead to a cultivation of phases of art all their own. In this direction Japan continues to demonstrate its smallness. For, granting the beauty and admirable character generally of much of what the skill and imagination of its people produce, it is quite plain that a failure to appreciate and profit from the achievements of other peoples only argues that this people is lacking in the breadth of view which any nation, to be great in the full sense of the word, must possess. Mr. Hearn discourses most entertainingly on the subject, and his observations upon the domiciliary, industrial and national life of the Japanese supply an abundance of evidence corroborative of his opinions. There is a great deal to be learned from *Kokoro*, which at the present time will particularly appeal to the intelligent reader.

A WOMAN INTERVENES. By Robert Barr. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

Mr. Barr, who, for a long time, was better known as "Luke Sharp," has a breezy style which lends itself charmingly to a certain kind of narrative. He handles his pen deftly and uses, as a rule, good English. This is apparent in no place more than in the story which we have just read. "A Woman Intervenes" is not the best thing Mr. Barr has done, but it is not far from it. Familiar with the methods employed by the newspaper woman of the day in procuring "beats" for her journal, the author has employed the knowledge in recounting the experiences of one of these clever women in trying to worm out an important secret from the agents of a big London mining syndicate. The first half of the book is largely given up to the adventures resulting from this woman's plotting. The second half develops the love story, the foundations for which were previously laid, and a very engaging love story it is. Mr. Barr realizes all the dramatic possibilities of the situations evolved. Indeed, in places he does not hesitate to ask us to believe in events which, despite his cleverness in explaining them, strike us as highly improbable at the best. But much may be forgiven him for the amount of human interest with which he manages to invest his tale. There is a good substantial plot, and the villain is only outwitted and defeated in the very last pages of the book. Likewise one of the two heroes only wins the woman he loves in the closing chapter, though we saw all along that such happiness was finally in store for him. "A Woman Intervenes" is an entertaining story, and with its many illustrations by Hal Hurst, is a pleasing book in appearance.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PROFESSIONAL BEAUTY. By Elizabeth Phipps Train. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

This story does not hold the attention as did at least one previous book by the same author. In some respects it is conventional, and the heroine, at times grows tiresome, on account of a superfluity of brilliant qualities. At the same time the plot, if such it can be called, has its good points, and there is a certain amount of interest aroused when we find the beautiful American girl thrown into English and Continental society, and made the queen of many masculine hearts among the nobility. It is pleasing, too, to find that, after all the court which has been paid her, this fortunate young woman realizes her love dream in the person of an American. The story shows an apparent familiarity with fashionable society abroad, and is written in rather sprightly style.

HANDBOOK OF GREEK SCULPTURE. By Ernest A. Gardner. New York: Macmillan & Co.

A concise review of the history of Greek sculpture from the time of its development to the close of the fourteenth century is afforded by Mr. Gardner's useful volume, and while in its entirety, the subject is of too large dimensions to be thus treated satisfactorily, we do not find that any important expression of the art of the period named has escaped consideration. Decorative art and the Greek sculptures receive careful attention and in a way that will appeal to the cultivated reader. The work, it seems, is to be continued in other hand-books, and upon the lines which govern the review in this, the initial volume.

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[March 28, 1896]

The Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart., who recently died in his ninety-seventh year, was the oldest clergyman of the Church of England, the oldest Free Mason and the oldest baronet in Great Britain.

**

The Rev. Dr. T. G. Addison, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, Washington, is said to marry more people in the course of a year than any other Washington clergyman.

**

A Michigan pastor has furnished notebooks to the young people of his church, in which to jot down thoughts from his sermons.

**

"I expect that before very long the congregation will be in a place where it will not require so much effort to keep warm," announced a clergyman from the pulpit of a church at Woodbury, Vt., last Sunday week, when the temperature was near zero. Whereat there was a titter through the congregation. What the good man meant was that he trusted the new church, now building, would soon be ready for occupancy by the congregation.

**

"Father, write articles. They will bring more fruit than sermons, for where the preacher's words cannot reach there newspapers do reach, and people read them who never go to a sermon." This is the advice which Pope Leo XIII, according to the *Verona Fidele*, recently gave to a celebrated Italian preacher, Father Zocchi.

NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

SHE sat before me at the play ;
She was a most bewitching creature.
I could not see the footlights' glare,
Nor on the stage a single feature.
"Twas not because her hat was high ;
For it was small—what says the scoffer ?
But she was so demurely fair
I could not keep my two eyes off her.

**

When placing himself under medical advice Carlyle once told a doctor : "I'll do anything ye tell me, but ye maunna stop ma pipe."

**

It is generally the man who has the least to complain about that does the most kicking.

**

A physician of Pocahontas county, Va., tells a story of a patient who one night recently swallowed two 32-calibre cartridges in mistake for two five-grain capsules of medicine. The doctor left the capsules with the instructions that the sick man should take them during the night. The man awakened, reached for the capsules, but somehow got hold of the cartridges, and did not discover his mistake until he had swallowed them. No serious harm resulted, though the patient had an anxious time for some hours.

**

Mr. Finlayson, town clerk of Stirling, Scotland, was noted for the marvelous in conversation. He was on a visit to the Earl of Monteith and Airth, at his castle in Taha, on the Loch of Monteith, and was about taking his leave, when he was asked by the Earl whether he had seen the sailing cherry-tree.

"No," said Finlayson. "What sort of a thing is it?"

"It is," replied the Earl, "a tree that has grown out of a goose's mouth from a stone the bird had swallowed, and which she bears around the loch. It is just at present in full fruit of the most exquisite flavor. Now, Finlayson," he added, "can you, with all your power of memory and fancy, match the story of the cherry-tree?"

"Perhaps I can," said Finlayson, clearing his throat and adding : "When Oliver Cromwell was at Airth, one of the cannon sent a ball to Stirling and lodged it in the mouth of a trumpet which one of the troopers in the castle was in the act of sounding."

"Was the trumpeter killed?" said the Earl.

"No, my lord," said Finlayson ; "he blew the ball back and killed the artilleryman who had fired it !"



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